

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCS-03

FBO-02 SCCT-01 AID-05 CCO-00 NIC-01 OC-05 OPR-01

USSS-00 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SY-04 CU-02 /083 W

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R 121340Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1314

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SEDU, TU

SUBJECT: STUDENT DISTURBANCES CONTINUE

1. ALTHOUGH MOST FACULTIES RESUMED NORMAL ACTIVITIES IN DECEMBER, BUCA ENGINEERING SCHOOL WHICH CONSTITUTES THE MAIN PART OF THE ENGINEERING FACULTY OF AEGEAN UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN EFFECTIVELY CLOSED SINCE LATE NOV. IT IS SCHEDULED TO REOPEN FEB. 15 BUT STUDENT SOURCES TELL US THAT BOYCOTT WILL RESUME NEXT DAY.

2. FOR FIRST TIME IN IZMIR STUDENT DISTURBANCES HAVE NOW BEGUN TO AFFECT SECONDARY SCHOOLS. FEB. 10 MORE THAN

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2,000 STUDENTS AT THE CINARLI VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN IZMIR

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BOYCOTTED CLASSES. FEB. 11 BOYCOTT SPREAD TO MANISA

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL WHERE 700 STUDENTS WALKED OUT. SOME STUDENTS AT MITHATPASA VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN IZMIR AND ODEMIS VOCATIONAL SCHOOL UNSUCCESSFULLY ATTEMPTED STAGE WALKOUT AFTERNOON FEB. 11.

3. REASON FOR OUTBREAK OF BOYCOTT IN VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS NOT CLEAR. STUDENT DEMANDS INCLUDE OLD STANDARDS SUCH AS INCREASED OPPORTUNITY FOR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL GRADUATES TO ENTER UNIVERSITIES, MORE SCHOLARSHIPS, BETTER FOOD, CHEAPER BOOKS, AND STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN ADMINISTRATION. TWO ADDITIONAL DEMANDS PECULIAR TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE ABOLITION OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT AND MORALITY CLASSES". LATTER CLASSES ARE IN FACT RELIGION CLASSES INITIATED THIS SCHOOL YEAR AS RESULT OF EFFORTS OF NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY.

4. ALTHOUGH MOST OF STUDENTS' DEMANDS ARE NOT POLITICAL IN NATURE, BOYCOTT IS CLEARLY POLITICAL HAPPENING. DEMANDS ARE COINED IN LANGUAGE OF EXTREME LEFT. POLICE FEB. 11 ARRESTED FIVE OUTSIDERS AT CINARLI SCHOOL AND SUBSEQUENTLY

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CLAIMED TO HAVE IDENTIFIED THEM AS DEVGENC MEMBERS.

5. POLICE HAVE TAKEN EXTENSIVE PRECAUTIONS TO AVOID VIOLENCE, AND NO INCIDENTS HAVE YET OCCURRED. IT MOST LIKELY THAT THESE STUDENTS, BEING YOUNGER THAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND MALLEABLE, WILL BE PERSUADED TO LIFT BOYCOTT SOON. IF VIOLENCE SHOULD BREAK OUT, HOWEVER, FACT THAT STUDENTS ARE SO YOUNG--AND PRESUMABLY INNOCENT-- WILL UNDOUBTEDLY GENERATE GREATER PUBLIC REACTION THAN SIMILAR INCIDENTS AT UNIVERSITIES.
SMITH

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